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Treaty of Versailles

The Treaty of Versailles was intended to be a peace agreement between the Allies and Germans. Once the talk of the Treaty began, the Allies found that they had opposing ideas and purposes surrounding the Treaty. The Treaty legally placed the responsibility for the war on Germany and its allies and imposed on Germany the problem of paying the debts of war. Soon after came foreign opposition, President Wilson could not gain support for the treaty in the United States. The weaknesses in the treaty and failure to compromise, the treaty gained very little congressional support. At the time of the signing of the treaty, Germany's army was ruined, the people of Germany were drained and its government was collapsing.

As the Allies began discussions of the peace treaty, the European allies rejected President Wilson's ideas on coming to a conclusion. Soon Allies were seeking revenge, Germany was going to be hurt economically and this will not be a good thing for them at the time. Britain and Germany were always rivals but before the war, Germany challenged Britain's unstoppable navy by increasing the amount of money spent on their navy. Britain paid almost thirty-six percent of the debt gained by the allies and seventeen percent of the war's total casualties. After the war, Britain faced tough economic problems such as their exports were at an all time low because of outdated factories, high tariffs, and competition from other countries. Britain soon suffered from high unemployment because of everything going on at the time, which affected the whole country.

There were many territorial changes to Germany after the war due to the treaty of Versailles. The most significant one was the decision to give Poland a coastline, the Polish Corridor. This was a piece of land running through the center of Germany, splitting it in two. By separating the rest of Germany from East Prussia, Germany was severely weakened. East Prussia had been a source of great revenue and the political elite for Germany. The Germans getting the land back was going to be a source of national pride.

The Germans had to destroy an area of their country called the Rhineland that was in between them and France, which acted as a defense zone. The treaty was that the Germans signed, which ordered to reduce the size of their army. They had to melt down their weapons and where not allowed to have any submarines. This had the affect of making the Germans feel weak and debased and wanted revenge. This was one of the biggest reasons the Germans were annoyed and angered at the treaty of Versailles. Soon altercations began, which could possibly have been the point that angered the Germans the most, it made them pay for the debts of the war even though they did not start it on their own.

The terms of the Treaty is that France had one main goal and all USA wanted was money and Britain wanted a more fair resolution that would prevent future conflict.

Germans could not say or do anything and just had to keep quiet as they were blamed for everything. The Germans had expected better treatment from the treaty of Versailles as they expected. Germans started the war and then as they were looking like they might not win, soon they fled to Holland. The German people had changed their government from Monarchy to a Democracy and had also obeyed with all the allies’ conditions, but they had still been treated harshly and unfairly. The Germans were also annoyed at the way that they were represented at the signing of the treaty of Versailles. The Treaty of Versailles ultimately led Europe to a Second World War due to the direct fact that the Big Threes' had different goals in terms of achieving peace.